



Practice Support Services

General Practice South provides a wide range of resources, support and education to assist general practice in its day-to-day activities. These include:

Nursing in General Practice

- Practice nurse orientation
- Practice Nurse Network meetings
- Chronic Disease Management, including setting up nurse led clinics
- A wide range of education and training
- MBS items for the practice nurse

Immunisation

- Distribution of resources including Immunisation Schedule, Strive for 5, vaccination advice sheets
- Assistance with vaccination coverage rates and ACIR reports
- Education, e.g. GP Update and Immunisation for Nurses

Practice Support Services

- Accreditation and re-accreditation
- MBS items (CDM/PIP/SIP etc)
- Practice Managers Network meetings
- Clinical and non-clinical education, e.g. CPR, Triage, Validation & Sterilisation.
- Cold Chain, Infection Control & Pandemic Planning audits and training
- Troubleshooting for vaccine fridges

Information Management

- Clinical software training and help, e.g. MD, BP & PEN CAT
- Information systems and technology advice
- General computer use training
- Electronic templates, creation and use
- Online Health Directory listings
- Help with locum advertising and requests.

GP health summaries – clear guidelines needed

As GPs will be aware, to meet the requirements for a satisfactory health summary the following elements need to be included:

- allergies and adverse reactions
- current medicines list
- current health problems
- relevant past health history
- health risk factors
- immunisation
- relevant family history and
- relevant social history

The RACGP has identified a need to clearly define the key elements of the GP health summary and has developed a set of seven factsheets to provide advice to general practices and their teams. An accurate and current GP health summary will ensure safe and high quality care for patients. The factsheets are now available at www.racgp.org.au/ehealth/summary.

Practice Support Staff at the Division



Pip Scholten

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Margaret Clarke

Nursing in General Practice including Practice Nurse Networks, Nurse education support and Immunisation

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We aim to be your first port of call for information so please contact us on 6208 7300 or via email (addresses above). Also visit our website www.gpsouth.com.au for resources, links and a range of useful materials for your practice.

NPS practice nurse information

The National Prescribing Service (NPS) now has a section on its website for practice nurses. Nurses will find general information, consumer information, case studies, and audit and review activities on the site. The information is comprehensive and complements the NPS GP program.

NPS also provides information to nurse practitioners.

To access services for ongoing professional development, authorised NPs should register on the NPS website.

Nurses working in aged care will also find useful information on the site including specific medicine information, case study activities, codes of practice, patient information and a range of references. www.nps.org.au/health_professionals/publications/nurse_update

CPR TRAINING

CPR Training sessions began in February and are usually held monthly. Training is provided by St John Ambulance and meets the criteria for RACGP CPD points.

Sessions are advertised on the General Practice South Event Calendar and you are able to RSVP from there or by ringing Ange Taylor on 6208 7300. There is a charge of \$30 per head and, unless inability to attend is notified at least 24 hours prior to the session, this amount will be invoiced.

Please note: these sessions are considered Basic Life Support and are therefore not appropriate for doctors requiring points for ACRRM.



2011 Health Directory Booklets

You will receive copies of our 2011 Health Directories this week. Please dispose of the 2010 ones and call the Division if you want any extras. Remember that the most up-to-date contact information on private health providers can be found on our website here: www.gpsouth.com.au/hd.htm

Templates

Remember our electronic templates section here at:

www.gpsouth.com.au/infom.html#templates

This month we have new templates for Diabetes Tasmania referral, as well as updated ones for:

- TasCarepoint
- Steven Wilkinson
- Srini Yellapu
- Rajesh Bhatia
- Hobart Heart Centre
- Healthy Training
- Stephen Chung

As always, give Ian McKnight a call if you want help with templates, or would like one created.

Medicare provider enquiry line

The options on the Medicare Provider Enquiry Line have changed. The changes will make it easier for health professionals to directly access staff that can deal with complex enquiries such as the interpretation of Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) item numbers.

There now is a dedicated option for MBS item interpretation in response to feedback.

Medicare Provider Enquiry Line: 132 150
See www.medicareaustralia.gov.au or email medicare.prov@medicareaustralia.gov.au.



Upcoming Events

Meeting Topic	Coordinator	Venue	Date & Time
Emergency Response Training for Practice Nurses	Margaret Clarke	University of Tasmania - Launceston Campus	Sat 5 March 9.00am - 5.00pm
The Contemporary Management of MS (Speaker Assoc Prof Bruce Taylor)	Liz Rees	Salamanca Inn	Tue 8 March 6.30pm - 9.00pm
Certificate II in Continence Promotion & Care	Margaret Clarke	Mercure Hotel	Tue 22 March 9.00am - 4.30pm
Wound Management Seminar Workshop 1 (must attend all 3 workshops)	Margaret Clarke	Seminar Room, GP South	Tue 22 March 1.30pm - 4.00pm

Disclaimer: Whilst every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that the information given in this newsletter is accurate, General Practice South will not accept liability, any injury, loss or damage arising directly or indirectly from any use of or reliance on this information.

HPV Vaccination can be provided in General Practice - for the eligible cohort

Whilst the catch-up program for older women has now ceased, the vaccine is provided free for 12 and 13 year old girls as part of the National Immunisation Program (NIP) and is usually offered as part of the school based immunisation program, which is undertaken by Local Government.

The HPV vaccine is usually provided through school programs, however eligible girls can receive the vaccine through their general practice. General practices can order the HPV vaccine from the Communicable Diseases Prevention Unit in the same way that they order all other vaccines which are provided free of charge under the NIP.

For any questions about the ordering or delivery of this or any other vaccine, contact the Communicable Disease Prevention Unit at The Department of Health and Human Services on 1800 671 738.

Cancer Resources

Information about resources, GP and Practice Nurse education and consumer support has been updated on the dedicated page on the General Practice South website.



This page can be accessed by clicking on Cancer on the Fast Find Index or by going directly to www.gpsouth.com.au/cancer.html

If you have any comments or questions, please contact Pam Reid at General Practice South on 6208 7320 or preid@gpsouth.com.au

NEW APNA Online Learning is ready!

APNA Online Learning has relocated to a new platform and is now available!

The website is: www.tiny.cc/drxs6

Courses currently available are:

- Mental Health Part One - free
- Mental Health Part Two - free
- Introduction to Eyes
- National Bowel Cancer Screening Program
- ... and more courses are on their way.

Please contact education@apna.asn.au if you have any enquiries.

2011 APNA Conference 2011

Details for the 2011 APNA national conference 'Roadmap for the future' are now up at the APNA web site.



For all the latest info please go to www.tiny.cc/6axue